

## Q19 Comments

Answered: 84 Skipped: 153

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Hi Matt...I came in yesterday to express my dismay regarding "the marijuana survey" results. This am I did a search online of the Lincoln County News and found the previous articles, one covering a hearing on July 19 and one covering discussion at a Selectman's meeting September 6 along with the proposed survey. My husband and I are long time residents and taxpayers of Damariscotta. We both voted NO on the marijuana referendum last November. I don't know where our heads were regarding these meetings but I don't think that we are the only ones who were unaware of the survey. When I read the results, the first thought that came to mind was " those who want it allowed have their ears to the ground and were very aware of it. We were aware of the request for volunteers to review the town codes so why did we not know about this survey. I read the LCN at least 5 out of 7 days. We have not had given our emails to the town office for use. Obviously we need to do that. Legalization of marijuana is not something that we want in Damariscotta. My opinion, yes. However, it is more than that. A family member who lives in Colorado has shared her thoughts with us on several occasions regarding the impact of marijuana on that state and the effects have not been positive at all. This family member is a psychiatric nurse and voted for legalization of marijuana. She tells us that it is the one vote that she wishes she could take back. I plan on calling all selectmen to share our view on this matter and will prioritize attending any upcoming community meeting. Thanks for listening..	10/12/2017 11:11 AM
2	I think Damariscotta can do this in a classy progressive way. Let's not lose out on the economic impact this could have on our community. I am a medical MMJ patient.	10/10/2017 12:18 PM
3	Gate way drug. Cannot control or eliminate drug abuse now-you have not seen anything yet. Today's enforcement doesn't work. With marijuana it will not get better. Thank you for this opportunity	10/10/2017 10:33 AM
4	Please publish any evidence of effects on driving accidents, medical evidence that marijuana is a drug and not safe and therapeutic for all people. The social use of this drug is not helpful for youth or the current drug crisis. We do not need to add to problems caused by inappropriate use and related oversight	10/10/2017 10:22 AM
5	Collect a lot of taxes :)	10/10/2017 10:15 AM
6	No marijuana! Signed a grieving grandmother who lost a beautiful member of her family to drugs, starting with marijuana! We desire a total prohibition except for medical, of this drug.	10/10/2017 10:03 AM
7	We need recreational marijuana to boost our town!! Don't ruin this for us.	10/7/2017 10:43 AM
8	Allowing Corp. Recreational marijuuana is a bad idea. The state voted overwhelmingly against it except for portland.	10/7/2017 9:56 AM
9	Cannabis is a plant and should Be treated as such. Full legalization will bring many jobs to the area directly and indirectly.	10/6/2017 3:14 PM
10	Should be allowed	10/6/2017 1:23 PM
11	I believe the legality of marijuana use enables town to regulate and tax this agricultural product thus providing a possible revenue for the town. This additional source of revenue could be used for improving school systems and social services in town. This idea has been realized in a number of towns in the state of Oregon. Just like alcohol, this legal substance needs to be regulated to ensure safe usage.	10/3/2017 10:32 PM
12	It's a commercial product useful medically (ask any cancer survivor or epileptic). We have an opportunity for tax revenue far greater than an unneeded and ugly mall that will generate 37.45 per tax payer. Grow it between the mall and the gun range where it won't bother any homeowners.	10/3/2017 8:08 PM
13	Needed to increase tax revenue and Maine voters approved it.	10/3/2017 1:30 PM
14	Access to recreational marijuana for youth will be detrimental to the future of our aging community. All marijuana cultivation should be banned in and around Damariscotta.	9/29/2017 10:07 AM

15	I think we should ban the commercial use and sales of marijuana in Damariscotta for recreational purposes. Allow only for medical use	9/28/2017 8:09 PM
16	Please allow for new business opportunities, increased tax revenue, and access for the public as approved by Maine voters. Thank you.	9/28/2017 9:26 AM
17	Regarding yes/no in distance to schools/daycare, I think the same rules should apply that apply to alcohol.	9/28/2017 8:14 AM
18	I live in Waldoboro	9/27/2017 11:18 PM
19	I see no reason to restrict marijuana any differently than alcohol. I live in Waldoboro and spend lots of fun/productive time in Damariscotta.	9/27/2017 2:09 PM
20	I believe there should be ways to test people who are operating a vehicle.	9/26/2017 8:44 AM
21	Treat it as you would another business. My only concern is placing "social clubs" in residential areas, primarily for noise/traffic concerns.	9/25/2017 11:37 AM
22	Entirely bad idea! Dangerous and destructive to the integrity of our town and its safety for all inhabitants, in town or in the rural areas!	9/25/2017 10:30 AM
23	I support full legalization with clear fair regulatory oversight.	9/24/2017 7:00 AM
24	Until tests for mental and physical impairment caused by marijuana have been scientifically established and legally accepted and until such tests have been available available to law enforcement to the same degree as testing for alcohol impairment, I believe recreational use of marijuana should not be permitted.	9/23/2017 4:38 PM
25	I live in Waldoboro. And I believe that the only places marijuana related businesses should NOT be allowed to operate is the area's around schools and daycares.	9/21/2017 12:21 PM
26	I would prefer that no marijuana activities be allowed within the bounds of Damariscotta	9/20/2017 4:44 PM
27	FYI - There was no option to skip a question if the previous answer was "no". (Example - if you answered no to #12, you still HAD to select something on #13 to continue with the remaining questions). This is going to affect the results of your survey.	9/18/2017 9:14 AM
28	i feel that over taxing will drive people to the black market.	9/14/2017 6:09 PM
29	I feel over taxing may drive people to the black market .	9/14/2017 6:08 PM
30	Sale of marijuana in the town of Damariscotta will ultimately change the vacationing demographic to one that I believe will hurt the image of our town. Consideration needs to be given to the number and the distance to Damariscotta of the towns where marijuana will be sold. We could become the destination vacation of those whose sole purpose is to get high, not unlike what Denver has become.	9/14/2017 10:25 AM
31	I am thoroughly discussed that you would let people in towns other than Damariscotta weigh in on this. People in Bristol and many other towns are not paying my high taxes. I do not want anyone other than the tax payers of Damariscotta, to have a say in how, where and what happens in our town!	9/11/2017 3:30 PM
32	I think the town should impose a city tax of 2% for retail sales and social club sales, to offset property taxes.	9/11/2017 2:51 PM
33	Please do not allow anything in Damariscotta. Our children need not be exposed to any of this with the exception of medical help to those who need it.	9/11/2017 2:25 PM
34	This area is already saturated with it, only smart smart thing to do is put controls and reap some tax revenue	9/11/2017 11:45 AM
35	The term "Manufacturing Facility" is too broad. As an industry professional with senior level experience in multiple adult use states, the town should differentiate between more technically complex extraction operations and less complex operations like edibles production or basic assembly businesses.	9/11/2017 11:06 AM
36	Hannaford has liquor next to bakery, produce, deli. It is only that time has desensitized us to alcohol. Besides which, marijuana has many medicinal benefits. This can not be said of alcohol.	9/10/2017 9:04 PM
37	The cultivation should be permitted as any other farming industry. The sale and social clubs should be permitted just as alcohol establishments are and allowed to co-mingle if requested.	9/10/2017 6:26 PM

38	People are going to do what they want I feel that the more restriction the worse it's going to be for the law enforcement	9/10/2017 6:12 PM
39	I think that marijuana should be regulated the same way alcohol is.	9/10/2017 2:28 AM
40	We should follow federal law and not allow any use of marijuana	9/9/2017 7:23 PM
41	The state alcohol law prohibits sales from being within 300 feet of schools and that should be the same with respects to marijuana, not some ambiguous number. The state has fumbled around with different numbers but I believe once regulations are approved they will be forced by law and possible lawsuits to adhere to the existing alcohol law.	9/9/2017 6:56 PM
42	This is a BAD idea for the area and Maine. Read the latest statistics coming out of Colorado and increase in accidents and usage. It needs to be strictly regulated and banned in as many communities as possible, if the law allows for that.	9/9/2017 7:53 AM
43	My wife and I strongly oppose sale, establishment of social use facilities, commercial cultivation and testing of marijuana products anywhere within Damariscotta	9/8/2017 11:05 PM
44	They don't do this for Rite Aid and Pharma drugs or alcohol. Cannabis IS MEDICINE. Leave people alone and leave this amazing plant alone please. Thank you :)	9/8/2017 10:56 PM
45	Resident of Jefferson	9/8/2017 7:13 PM
46	Rule of reason. Adults over 21 are permitted to use, so bear that in mind. We need accurate data on impact on impaired driving.	9/8/2017 6:32 PM
47	I think the regulations should be similar to those for alcohol. You wouldn't site a bar or liquor store right next to a school, same with pot. But growing, manufacturing, etc. should be allowed in the areas where other zoning would be allowed per the activity.	9/8/2017 4:55 PM
48	None	9/8/2017 4:49 PM
49	Why is this so difficult? We already have laws on the books regulating the sale of a far more dangerous substance..alcohol. treat clubs etc...like bars and you have the solution.	9/8/2017 3:24 PM
50	No manufacturing, growing, testing,recreational clubs,retail or any facility encouraging the use or sale of the drug should be located anywhere within the town of Damariscottas boundaries,period	9/8/2017 2:41 PM
51	Opening up a huge can of worms. Sad day-now we have to worry about our kids having even more access to drugs. I am a nurse and see the affects marijuana has on the brain after long term usage. Needless to say we have enough not so smart people living already.	9/8/2017 2:03 PM
52	We don't need marijuana sold in Damariscotta.	9/8/2017 1:20 PM
53	A cannabis business will benefit the town's retail and commercial businesses. Increased traffic and a need for parking is my main objection to locating cannabis retail in the downtown area.	9/8/2017 1:11 PM
54	The law has been passed ....Time to do something with it	9/8/2017 12:54 PM
55	All if these considerationsshould NOT be allowed in our lovely Damariscotta.	9/8/2017 12:12 PM
56	If we are trying to have ourtown viewed as child friendly, productive, and professional, marijuana should be limited and regulated. I don't think marijuana is harmless. I don't want my kids exposed to it. I don't want to smell dead skunk everywhere I walk. It should be like smoking tobacco and treated as such. I understand the need for medical marijuana and I understand some view it as harmless. I'm in the mental health profession and I know it is not. It fundamentally alters teen brains and children and weather we like to admit it or not, marijuana is often associated with other drugs. Sometimes not, but every household I go into that struggle with addiction is saturated with marijuana.	9/8/2017 12:10 PM
57	Damariscotta should not allow any facilities in its town.	9/8/2017 11:58 AM
58	I am a resident of Boothbay harbor and an owner of a medical marijuana caregiver store in Boothbay.	9/8/2017 11:39 AM
59	It is hard to see any general community benefit resulting from increased availability of another narcotic substance generating undesirable behavioral side effects. Since the state has chosen to legalize its possession for "recreational use," individual or group enjoyment is best left to the home at the owner's discretion. Making such activity more visible can only negatively affect the recognized character of our town.	9/8/2017 10:17 AM

60	It's hard to see any general community benefit resulting from increased local availability of another narcotic substance for "recreational use." Since the state has chosen to legalize its possession, usage is best limited to the home, individually or in groups at the owner's discretion. We can allow it without promoting it in an overtly public way that would change the perception of our town.	9/8/2017 10:05 AM
61	Good survey	9/8/2017 9:39 AM
62	See what is happening in Colorado as result of open sale, particularly to young people.	9/8/2017 8:56 AM
63	It should be treated no differently then alcohol and is in my opinion far less dangerous.	9/8/2017 7:57 AM
64	Best to keep all Marijuana activities out of Damariscotta. There is no benefit to these activities.	9/8/2017 7:57 AM
65	we think this area of development will be self limiting, so the need for regulation is less	9/8/2017 7:00 AM
66	Recreational use of marijuana will bring tremendous revenue to the locations where it is fostered. It will be a great financial boon to the Damariscotta area.	9/8/2017 6:38 AM
67	I favor the right to grow and consume a personal amount of marijuana. I do not favor the broad commercialization of recreational marijuana growing, selling or consuming but if it has to happen it should be in an easily observable and accountable area like the downtown or the already commercially developed area of upper Main Street i.e. to about the gun club. Beyond that it's too close to GSB, the Y, the DRA - all areas which essentially function as our community center due to lack of a proper park or gathering place downtown that might provide that function.	9/7/2017 11:36 PM
68	I think you would be making a big mistake by allowing any marijuana activities in Damariscotta and its environs. I think that surrounding towns(Boothbay for example) are not going to allow it and if so, and Damariscotta does, it will become a monumental headache and the town will destroy its wonderful reputation. If nothing else wait a few years until we see how good or bad this goes in other areas of the country (and state). The use of marijuana is much worse than smoking and probably even alcohol. Please don,t do it. Robert P. Smith, Jefferson and Maryland	9/7/2017 11:04 PM
69	own property in Damariscotta strict but fair rules should prevail	9/7/2017 10:36 PM
70	Good survey.	9/7/2017 10:14 PM
71	No retail sales no social clubs	9/7/2017 9:50 PM
72	If our town has the ability to legally reject all aspects of the growing,manufacturing, selling, testing etc. of marijuana, and apparently we do, I would vote to reject all of it. I would say that as a taxpayer, I am happy for most new business opportunities for our town. I welcome new property tax to our tax base. I believe that this industry has the potential to bring the kind of individuals and possible crime activity to our community that we do want. This industry may place an increased burden on our police department. This in turn will lead to an increase in our law enforcement budget, and of course ultimately higher taxes. If our town decides to approve this issue, I would hope that we do not miss our opportunity as a town to place a municipal tax or fee of some kind ( in addition to normal prop. tax etc.) on the business or businesses to pay for the inevitable costs that will result. Listening to interviews from folks from other towns and states where this has been tried already, they speak of many unintended consequences that have resulted.	9/7/2017 9:08 PM
73	Extend restricted areas to near churches as well as schools and daycare centers. Prevent smoking in public; I don't want to inhale someone else's marijuana smoke.	9/7/2017 7:44 PM
74	This is a social phenomena that has a lower negative impact than alcohol, and should be afforded the same commercial rights as alcohol based businesses. Also, by supporting legal use of marijuana, the need for "black market" sources goes away, which will reduce the footprint of these "black markets" and thus help reduce the availability and distribution of dangerous illegal drugs.	9/7/2017 6:00 PM
75	A great chance to bring about positive industry	9/7/2017 5:56 PM
76	Think it very dangerous ground.	9/7/2017 5:14 PM
77	Damariscotta should follow the rules set forth by the state when it is all put in place	9/6/2017 9:08 PM
78	This plant should be viewed as any other agricultural crop. Education is paramount, using supporting evidence, historical record, and unbiased sources. One day the cannabinoids in Cannabis will be viewed as like a vitamin. When you understand the endocannabinoid system you cannot help but see how wonderful it is a plant found a way to evolve to mimic the endocannabinoids the body naturally produces. Every physiological system in the human body uses Cannabinoids as a messenger. To view Cannabis as a "Sin" product is to shoot the literal messenger... molecule	9/6/2017 7:58 PM

79	Thank you!	9/6/2017 6:44 PM
80	Marijuana/Cannabis should be treated the same as alcohol. As far as medical use..treated the same as any other medication.	9/6/2017 6:43 PM
81	please understand the financial gain we may have by embracing cannabis. It will be a great thing for our town and will not distract from our beautiful community. I've traveled all over the country and experienced all medical and adult use states and have seen very little negative impact. The positives far outweigh the negatives. Please choose wisely.	9/6/2017 6:31 PM
82	<p>One question not on here "should citizens of Damariscotta have priority in obtaining licensing"? To that, I would say yes. Additionally, manufacturing isn't limited to "edible" cannabis products. Other products that would be manufactured are topical salves, balms, and lotions, transdermal patches, pre-filled and dosed syringes of extracted cannabis, tinctures, sprays, lip-balms, suppositories, nasal inhalation products, soaps, shampoos, conditioners, bath soaks, foot soaks, and a multitude of others. Suggesting to residents of Damariscotta and the surrounding service area that a manufacturing license is only to produce edibles is unfortunate. Especially considering so many of the manufactured products could assist the 55 and over population use cannabis to alleviate symptoms of aging, side effects of medication, and save money on health-care and prescription costs. Cannabis has been shown to decrease medicare costs in legal use states.</p> <p><a href="http://content.healthaffairs.org/content/35/7/1230">http://content.healthaffairs.org/content/35/7/1230</a> Limiting access to cannabis by placing a ban on it will be a devastating loss to the community and the tax payers. The list of approved diseases on the medical cannabis law is very limited, opening up the market to all people (over 21) is key in developing a strong and vibrant cannabis industry. Damariscotta has an amazing opportunity to demonstrate how cannabis business can be utilized to help the community and surrounding area in a healthy and beneficial way. I feel that anybody that is willing to put up the money, time, and effort into obtaining ANY of the licenses should be granted that privilege. The process to get approval at the state level is going to be extremely difficult and competitive, if a resident of Damariscotta is lucky enough to have the opportunity to have a cannabusiness here it shouldn't be hindered. Certainly, public input is important, but if citizens that don't understand the cannabis market or regulations are making all of the decisions as to whether or not to allow cannabusiness, we as a community will be on the losing side of this amazing 21st century opportunity. Also, this is not just about legalizing "pot to get stoned" that is a small portion of what the current cannabis market is. Did you know the largest growing sector of cannabis users is the 55 and over segment? <a href="http://www.msn.com/en-us/news/factcheck/seniors-becoming-fastest-growing-marijuana-users/vp-AApMnnz">http://www.msn.com/en-us/news/factcheck/seniors-becoming-fastest-growing-marijuana-users/vp-AApMnnz</a> , <a href="https://www.consumeraffairs.com/news/baby-boomers-the-fastest-growing-marijuana-users-120516.html">https://www.consumeraffairs.com/news/baby-boomers-the-fastest-growing-marijuana-users-120516.html</a> , "People born between 1946 to 1964, known collectively as the baby-boomer generation, make up the fastest growing segment as a percentage of all Eaze users. They grew 25% year-over-year, while millennials' share of total users actually declined 3% in 2016". <a href="http://www.businessinsider.com/new-eaze-report-marijuana-consumer-trends-2017-2#baby-boomers-are-the-fastest-growing-population-of-eaze-users-7">http://www.businessinsider.com/new-eaze-report-marijuana-consumer-trends-2017-2#baby-boomers-are-the-fastest-growing-population-of-eaze-users-7</a>. Damariscotta is the service center for a lot of baby boomers. Do not discount this market and the potential benefit to them and the community, even if they aren't aware of it yet. I feel that a large portion of our community is only seeing a small subsection of the market as the "stoner" or "pot head" stereotype and making broad generalized decisions as to the allowance of cannabis business based on that stigma. This could not be further from the truth. It is becoming insulting with the amount of data and acceptance around the world that some still see this stereotype as the primary market. Furthermore, cannabis is now considered to be an "exit drug" from addiction to opioids, though that is not a qualifying condition here in the state of Maine. <a href="https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/22880540">https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/22880540</a>. As you are all aware, this is a devastating epidemic not only for young people but the baby boomers as well, especially since the prescribing rules have changed. People aren't getting the number of milligrams that they were once able to get from their prescriber. Leaving them in pain and at risk of unsafe withdrawal, or worse resorting to the street to get what ever they can to feel better and mitigate the symptoms of withdrawal. I'm a Damariscotta resident with a young family and I'm eager to bring cannabusiness here to our town in a way that will benefit all. Brining additional forward thinking business to town, is about attracting more young people; innovators, entrepreneurs, business savvy people and families. Please, do not ban cannabusiness based on stigma and fear that is misplaced and out dated. Thank You!</p>	9/6/2017 4:52 PM
83	Thank you for asking!	9/6/2017 4:18 PM
84	Tourists and visitors do not come here to have drugs thrust in their faces. We should keep marijuana out of our quaint village center.	9/6/2017 2:11 PM